



SEXUAL RISK BEHAVIORS Fact Sheet

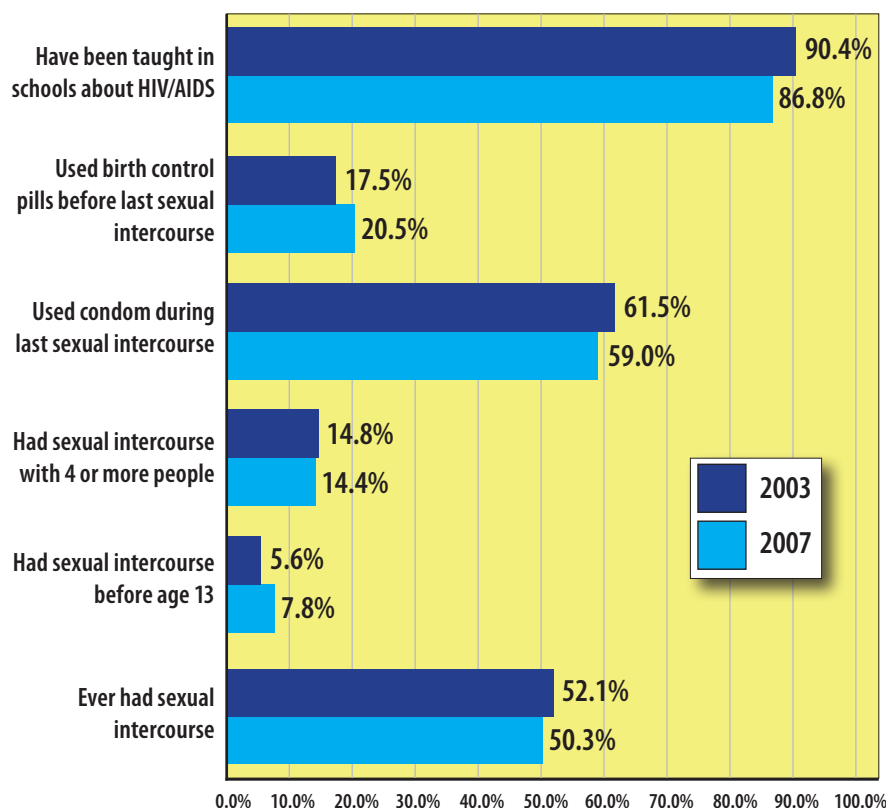
Sexual Risk Behaviors

Sexual intercourse and other sexual risk behaviors place young people at risk for HIV infection and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Sexual intercourse carries the additional risk of pregnancy. Abstinence from sexual intercourse is the only 100% effective way to prevent HIV, other STIs, and pregnancy.¹

¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/sexualbehaviors/index.htm>. Retrieved 7/28/08.

Sexual Risk Behavior Trends in Kentucky

The following graph represents the sexual risk behaviors of adolescents in 2003 and 2007. Please note that none of the data represent statistically significant changes.



The YRBS is a nationwide survey produced by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Division of Adolescent and School Health (DASH) to monitor the six critical health behaviors of adolescents: alcohol and drug use, injury and violence (including suicide), tobacco use, nutrition, physical activity, and sexual risk behaviors. The data is collected from students in 9th through 12th grades every two years. In 2007, Kentucky was able to obtain weighted high school data.

Youth Disproportionately at Risk

- Blacks (65.1%) are more likely than whites (48.3%) to have ever had sexual intercourse
- Males (10.0%) are more likely than females (5.8%) to have had sexual intercourse before age 13
- Blacks (17.6%) and Hispanic/Latinos (15.6%) are more likely than whites (6.5%) to have had sexual intercourse before age 13
- Blacks (30.7%) and Hispanic/Latinos (25.8%) are more likely than whites (12.4%) to have had sexual intercourse with four or more partners during their lifetime
- Whites (88.3%) are more likely than blacks (76.6%) and Hispanic/Latinos (76.2%) to have been taught in school about HIV/AIDS

For More Information

For additional KY YRBS data and other YRBS fact sheets, visit the KDE website at: <http://www.education.ky.gov/KDE/Administrative+Resources/School+Health/Youth+Risk+Behavior+Survey.htm>

For national data or more information on the YRBS, visit the CDC website at: <http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm>